

ably the result of a metabolism disease influenced by the food and spawning condition of the shellfish. (5) Poisonous mussels can not be distinguished from sound mollusks neither by appearance nor behavior on cooking; occasionally a pungent odor may be noted; the "liver" is always large and dark. (6) The shellfish may become poisonous within a few days and may remain so for several weeks. No assurance can be given that the mussels may not acquire the poisonous properties overnight. (7) During the winter months December-March the poison disappeared only to reappear late in March; however, the amount of poison which may be present early in spring is not sufficiently concentrated to cause symptoms on indigestion in an empty stomach. (8) Since it is impossible to examine all the mussel beds along the California shore line it is impossible to establish by laboratory test the absence of poisonous mussels in certain beds and during certain months of the year. From the experiences thus far collected it is quite apparent that the use of mussels on the California coast during the summer months is always connected with some danger. Near Santa Cruz poisoning cases have occurred in two successive years. No assurance can be given that this condition may not repeat itself. People who notice a tingling or numbness around the lips and prickly feeling in the finger tips and toes 30 minutes or longer after they have eaten mussels should empty the stomach by an emetic, purge the intestinal tube by brisk laxatives and call for a physician immediately.

MANLY D. BARBER

It is with sincere regret that we report the death on August 18, 1928, of Manly D. Barber. He was born at DeKalb, Illinois, May 21, 1852. His early education was received at DeKalb, and he later attended a business school at Quincy, Illinois. He evidenced an early interest in nat-

ural history, studying the botany of Illinois and later devoted his entire time to mollusks and invertebrate fossils. In 1903, he moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, which remained his home until his death. He was a carpenter by trade, devoting his spare time to collecting. He exchanged his material with collectors both in this country and abroad and built up a modest collection in this way. His chief interest was the *Pleuroceridae* and *Unionidae*, two groups well developed in the Knoxville region.'

His endeavors were those of a field collector, preferring that others should publish on his finds. A few notes only appeared by him in THE NAUTILUS. The major part of his collection was sold to the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy a year before his death. Several small collections were made and deposited by him in schools, both in Tennessee and Illinois. A few species of freshwater mollusks have been named after Mr. Barber.—W. J. CLENCH.

NOTES

HELIX HORTENSIS IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.—*Helix hortensis* Müll, is very common here in Rimouski, on the hills one or two miles from the shore of the St. Lawrence River. I have also found it at Percé on the Gulf of St. Lawrence at an elevation of 1200 feet.—REV. A. A. DE-CHAMPLAIN.

VENUS MERCENARIA AT MT. DESERT, MAINE.—In looking over some old maps of Mt. Desert Island in 1921 I noticed the name Quahog Bay given to one of the places on the west side of the Island, and, thinking that it might have acquired the name from the fact that quahogs were found there, I searched, but did not find any, nor did I find them in any of the coves up the west side of the Island until I reached the most northwest one at a place called Clarks Cove where I took one in 1927. In the field work of the